Misappropriation by Mr. Ravunni Menon.

190. Mr. K. J. Antony.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether Mr. Ravunni Menon expressed his regret for the incident and requested in his explanation dated 27th Karkadagam 1101 that he may be excused ;

(b) whether the then District Munsiff also expressed in his report dated 3rd Chingam 1102 that regard may be given to Mr. Ravunni Menon's long term of service and plain and honest admission of the matter ;

(c) whether the then Munsiff was not also called upon to enquire and report if any other irregularity on the part of the Head clerk concerned had come to his notice; and if so, what was the report ;

(d) what was the recommendation of the District Judge to the Hon'ble Chief Court about the punishment to be meted out to Mr. Ravunni Menon for his guilt ;

(e) what was the order, if any, of the Chief Court with regard to the matter and after the reports of the District Munsiff and District Judge respectively and was it made known to Mr. Ravunni Menon, if so, when ; was he in active service then ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. A copy of the report is appended. (*Vide Appendix I.*)

(d) Compulsory retirement and payment of such compassionate allowance as the Government deem fit.

(e) The Judges expressed the opinion that he should be suspended for 6 months and reduced by one grade on the expiry of the period of suspension. The Chief Court order was not communicated to Ravunni Menon. He was on leave from 21st Chingam 1102.

191. Mr.K.J. Antony.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) was there a final report from the District Judge dated 17th Kumbham 1102 to the Chief Court about the misconduct on the part of Mr. Ravunni Menon, who was then under suspension ;

(b) was the District Munsiff called upon to offer his remarks before preparing the final report by the District Judge, if not, why not ;

(c) whether Mr. Ravunni Menon was given a chance to offer his explanations on the alleged misconduct ; if so, what was his explanation ;

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(d) what was the final order of the Chief Court on the final report of the District Judge ;

(e) was not the then District Judge on privilege leave when the order dismissing Mr. Ravunni Menon from the Government service was passed ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) Yes.

(b) No. Perhaps the remarks of the District Munsiff were not considered necessary.

(c) Yes; but he did not submit any explanation.

(d) No order was passed by the Chief Court.

(e) No.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—With reference to (a), may I know what is the final report of the District Judge ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I have not got the exact wording.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—May I know at least the sum and substance ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think it is recommending some punishment or some such thing. That is all I can say at present.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—Under what conditions ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I cannot remember.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—May I know whether that report was sent to the Chief Court for any remarks ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We want notice to clear that point.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—With reference to (c), may I know when was the explanation demanded from the Head clerk concerned ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We want notice.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—I had given sufficient notice, and yet I do not get an answer to my supplementary question.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The question did not contain the dates.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—If the file is here, then, the date can be easily ascertained.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I am sorry; the file is not here.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—May I at least know when the dismissal order was passed by the District Judge ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The dismissal order is dated 26th Meenam 1102.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—May I know the date on which the explanation from him was due ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Notice.

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Mr. K. J. Antony.—May I know whether the District Judge was on leave or on duty then?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There must be a District Judge at the time, I suppose.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—May I know who was the District Judge then?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Government wants notice to supply information on these detailed points.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—Government wants notice to say who was the District Judge then?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—This case was dragged on for more than one and a half years or so, and there might have been several changes of District Judges during such period. If the Member wants to know who the District Judge was on that particular date, the Government requires notice.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—I had sent my question with sufficient notice, and the Department should have collected all information with regard to that.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The questions have all been answered, Sir.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—But I want answers to my supplementary questions.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is regarding those that we want notice.

Mr. Ravunni Menon's appeal to the Chief Court.

192. Mr. K. J. Antony.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether Mr. Ravunni Menon had perferred an appeal to the Chief Court against his dismissal order from the District Court, dated 21st Edavam 1102;

(b) had he not prayed in his petition to the Chief Court to show towards him a special act of mercy;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, was there any special reason to deny him his prayer;

(d) what was the order of the Chief Court on his appeal?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No special reason is required to refuse a prayer for special mercy.

(d) The appeal was dismissed.

Mr. Ravunni Menon's review petition before the Chief Court.

193. Mr. K. J. Antony.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) was there not a review petition before the Chief Court by Mr. Ravunni Menon, dated 17th Vrischigam 1103;

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APPENDIX I.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 190).

Letter dated 5th Kanni 1102 from the District Munsiff of Ernakulam to the District Judge of Anjikaimal.

"With reference to your Memo, Confidential 1/1102, I have the honour to state as follows:—The Head clerk has been here since 1096 or 1097. Apart from any past instances of delay in remitting money into the Treasury, I had in mind to see whether instances of entire loss of money come to my notice. Both are difficult to be traced from the mere accounts alone owing to the possibility of such items not being brought into the accounts at all. The accounts will have therefore to be checked by going through a large number of files for which I could not spare time personally. In the case of entire misappropriation there is the safeguard that the matter would come to notice when parties apply for money. So far no complaint has arisen in that way and no cases of that sort seem to have happened as such cases, if any, ought to have come to light by now. The only other possible things are cases of delay. In the instance already reported, the delay came to my notice under the special circumstances detailed in my previous letter. As regards other delays, if any, it was not possible for me to go into the matter personally for the reasons above-mentioned. There has therefore been no occasion for me to notice or to come across with similar instances."

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